

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

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P 091100Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0919

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FOR AF/C AMBASSADOR DALE FROM CHARGE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CT

SUBJECT: CREDENTIAL PRESENTATION REMARKS

1. BELOW IS TEXT OF SUGGESTED DRAFT WHICH YOU MAY WISH TO DRAW UPON IN PREPARATION YOUR REMARKS FOR CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION CEREMONY. REMARKS WILL BE DELIVERED IN FRENCH. IF POSSIBLE, FINAL TEXT SHOULD BE RECEIVED HERE AT LEAST SEVERAL DAYS AND PREFERABLY ONE WEEK PRIOR TO ARRIVAL TO PERMIT TRANSLATION AND COURTESY TRANSMISSION TO GOCAR FOR THEIR PREPARATION OF REPLY, SINCE POSSIBILITY ALWAYS EXISTS THAT CEREMONY WILL BE SCHEDULED VERY SHORTLY AFTER YOU ARRIVE.

2. BEGIN TEXT: I HAVE THE HONOR TO PRESENT TO YOUR EXCELLENCY THE LETTER BY WHICH PRESIDENT NIXON ACCREDITS ME TO YOU AND TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. I ALSO PRESENT TO YOU THE LETTER OF RECALL OF MY PREDECESSOR, AMBASSADOR MELVIN L. MANFULL.

IT IS FOR ME A PARTICULAR PLEASURE TO BE NAMED AMBASSADOR TO YOUR COUNTRY, WHICH HAS A LONG AND CONTINUOUS TRADITION OF CLOSE FRIENDSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES. MY GOVERNMENT WAS AMONG THE FIRST TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, AND I AM PROUD TO BECOME A PART NOW OF THIS SPLENDID TRADITION. I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT ALL MY EFFORTS HERE WILL BE DEVOTED TO CONTINUING AND REINFORCING THE EXCELLENT RELATIONS

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WHICH EXIST BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, RELATIONS WHICH HAVE

ALWAYS BEEN SOLIDLY BASED ON THE PRINCIPLES OF MUTUAL RESPECT AND FRANK COOPERATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF BOTH OUR PEOPLES. YOU CAN COUNT ON ME TO SERVE AS A FAITHFUL INTERPRETER TO MY GOVERNMENT OF THE IDEALS AND ASPIRATIONS OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN PEOPLE AND OF THEIR WISE AND VALIANT LEADER.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE SHARE MANY OF THESE SAME IDEALS AND ASPIRATIONS, PARTICULARLY THOSE OF PEACE AND PROGRESS TO WHICH YOU, MR. PRESIDENT FOR LIFE, HAVE SHOWN YOURSELF TO BE SO DEEPLY AND SELFLESSLY DEDICATED. "OPERATION BOKASSA," THE DYNAMIC STRATEGY WHICH YOUR EXCELLENCY HAS CREATED AND WHICH EMBODIES THE EFFORTS OF ALL THE CENTRAL AFRICAN PEOPLE TO DEVELOP THEIR COUNTRY AND IMPROVE THEIR WAY OF LIFE, HAS AROUSED OUR PROFOUND ADMIRATION. NOTE THE TREMENDOUS GAINS ACHIEVED, GAINS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE HARD WORK AND HEROIC SACRIFICES OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN PEOPLE THEMSELVES UNDER YOUR VIGOROUS AND INSPIRING LEADERSHIP.

BUT THE CENTRAL AFRICAN PEOPLE HAVE NOT BEEN ALONE IN THIS EFFORT. WE KNOW THAT THEY COUNT ALSO ON THE UNSELFISH AND DISINTERESTED COOPERATION OF FRIENDLY COUNTRIES LIKE THE UNITED STATES TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING THE NOBLE OBJECTIVES OF "OPERATION BOKASSA." THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS GIVEN ITS SUPPORT TO THIS PROGRAM, BOTH BILATERALLY AND THROUGH ITS MULTILATERAL AID CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS THAT PLAY SUCH AN IMPORTANT PART IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST UNDERDEVELOPMENT HERE AND ELSEWHERE. I CAN ASSURE YOU, MR. PRESIDENT FOR LIFE, OF OUR FURTHER COOPERATION AND SUPPORT IN THIS IMPRESSIVE NATIONAL UNDERTAKING.

OUR RELATIONS ARE FURTHER STRENGTHENED BY THE GROWTH OF PRIVATE INVESTMENT AND TRADE BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. THE CLIMATE OF STABILITY AND MUTUAL CONFIDENCE WHICH AMERICAN FIRMS HAVE FOUND HERE IS ENCOURAGING AND MUCH APPRECIATED. IT IS OUR HOPE THAT AMERICAN BUSINESS ACTIVITY IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC WILL CONTINUE TO INCREASE, I INTEND TO HELP ENCOURAGE THIS, PARTICULARLY PRIVATE AMERICAN INVESTMENT WHICH AS YOUR EXCELLENCY KNOWS, CAN BE SO VALUABLE TO THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS.

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I AM PLEASED TO NOTE THAT AMERICANS HAVE ALWAYS ENJOYED A WARM WELCOME HERE. WE ARE, OF COURSE, ESPECIALLY GRATEFUL FOR THE EXTREMELY WARM AND GENEROUS RECEPTION YOU AND YOUR PEOPLE GAVE OUR VISITING ASTRONAUTS, WHOM YOU PRAISED NOT ONLY AS ILLUSTRIOUS AMERICANS BUT ALSO AS MEN OF SCIENCE AND PEACE BELONGING TO ALL MANKIND. OVER THE YEARS AMERICANS RESIDENT HERE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO LIVE AND WORK IN HARMONY WITH THEIR CENTRAL AFRICAN FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES, AND THEY, IN TURN, HAVE

CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE WELL-BEING OF THEIR ADOPTED
COMMUNITY. YOUR GOVERNMENT RECENTLY DECORATED
ONE OF THEM, DR. FLOYD TABER, IN RECOGNITION OF HIS 37 YEARS OF
SERVICE HERE. THIS HONORS ALL AMERICANS IN YOUR COUNTRY AND IS
A FURTHER DEMONSTRATION OF THE BONDS OF AMERICAN-
CENTRAL AFRICAN FRIENDSHIP WHICH THEY HAVE HELPED TO FORGE.

YOUR EXCELLENCY, I CANNOT FAIL TO NOTE ALSO A QUALITY
WHICH YOU AND PRESIDENT NIXON SHARE IN COMMON -- YOUR TIRELESS
DEVOTION TO THE CAUSE OF WORLD PEACE. THE CENTRAL AFRICAN
REPUBLIC LIVES IN PEACE WITH ITS NEIGHBORS AND WITH OTHER NATIONS.
YOU HAVE PERSONALLY HELPED PROMOTE PEACEFUL SETTLEMENTS AND
UNITY IN AFRICA. AN YOU HAVE STRONGLY SUPPORTED OTHERS WHO WORK
TO ACHIEVE LASTING PEACE ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD. WE ADMIRE
AND RESPECT THESE NOBLE EFFORTS WHICH YOU HAVE MADE AND WHICH
CORRESPOND TO OUR OWN ENDEAVORS IN THIS SAME JUST CAUSE.

IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT OF MUTUAL RESPECT AND COOPERATION,
MR. PRESIDENT FOR LIFE, THAT I BRING YOU THE PERSONAL GREETINGS
AND BEST WISHES OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. HE HAS
ASKED ME TO CONVEY TO YOU OUR SINCERE DESIRE FOR THE FURTHER
STRENGTHENING OF OUR ALREADY FRIENDLY RELATIONS. I LOOK FORWARD
VERY MUCH TO LEARNING FIRST-HAND ABOUT THIS BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY
AND ITS VALIANT PEOPLE AND TO MY ASSOCIATION WITH YOU AND
MEMBERS OF YOUR GOVERNMENT IN CARRYING OUT THE IMPORTANT
RESPONSIBILITIES THE PRESIDENT HAS ASSIGNED TO ME.

LONG LIVE AMERICAN-CENTRAL AFRICAN FRIENDSHIP.
END TEXT
ROSENTHAL

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